

the claims. In this response, Applicants have changed the title and have submitted a terminal disclaimer.

Claims 47-68 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 5,737,054 (the "Chao Patent"). The reason was that, "Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims 47-68 of this application is broader than claims 14 of the patent ..." Although the Chao Patent does not have claim 14, in order to expedite the application, Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

In the event that the Examiner, upon reexamination, determines that an action other than an allowance is appropriate, the Examiner is requested and authorized to telephone Applicants' Attorney prior to taking such action, if the Examiner feels that such a telephone call will advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Feb. 16, 2000

By: Peter Tong  
Peter P. Tong, Reg. No. 35,757  
(408) 748-7300

FLIESLER, DUBB, MEYER & LOVEJOY LLP  
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 400  
San Francisco, California 94111-4156  
Telephone: (415) 362-3800